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Agricultural.

Breeding In and In.

The following points on the subject of breeding, is from a lecture delivered by Mr. Jas. McDonald of the *Scotsman*, before the students of the North Scotland school. Those interested in stock raising should read it carefully;

"In animal husbandry, three systems of breeding are pursued—'in-and-in,' 'mixed,' and 'cross' breeding. No point in regard to stock breeding has created keener discussion than 'in-and-in' breeding. Some advocate it as the surest and best means of stamping uniformity of character upon a herd. Others tell us as emphatically that it is a ruinous system, certain in course of time to most seriously impair, if not indeed entirely destroy, both the constitution and the fecundity of the animal so bred. The great majority of farmers oppose in-and-in breeding, believing it weakens the constitution and breeding properties of animals. In-and-in breeding is not of necessity the ruinous system it has been generally supposed; when skillfully applied under favorable circumstances it is the shortest and surest road to the rearing of pure-bred animals. An animal is the composite product of numerous ancestors; it will follow the characteristics of its parents, yet inherit also characteristics that belonged to its ancestors. A cow and bull, of great individual merit, and resembling each other closely, might produce a calf far inferior to them in general merit. Next year the same pair might produce a most successful blending of both parents. Some attribute such instances to 'spontaneous generation' or 'spontaneous variation,' but breeders generally regard such variation in offspring as breeding back to remote ancestors. If we are to insure uniformity in the product we must have uniformity not only in parents but also in the ancestry. M. Colcombet, a French farmer who set to work to build up a herd of white Short-horns, not satisfied with animals that were themselves white, inquired their ancestry, and bred from animals most of whose recent ancestors were white. He has bred about forty calves, each perfectly white.

Animals bred for several generations in close relationship have a much stronger preponent power or family current, to mark and regulate offspring than a tribe of different strains of blood. The more noted early Short-horns were closely bred. If in-and-in breeding be applied to animals of pure and similar blood, of good sound constitution, inhabiting a climate suited to them, and properly fed and managed, the good points would be rapidly developed, while the tenacity for making offspring would become more potential each succeeding generation. If animals had no constitutional weakness, no marked tendency in that direction, in-and-in breeding would not develop blemishes. It would rather, if skillfully pursued, bar engrafting ailments, for in-and-in breeding avoids infusing constitutional defects through strains of strange blood. Apply in-and-in breeding to animals possessing in latent form constitutional defects of any kind, and probably the scheme would be a failure, each generation would most likely inherit a double share of the defects of the preceding generation. It develops and intensifies, and perpetuates every force for good or for evel in the animal; but properly conducted, it creates no new force. Perhaps the most difficult point connected with in-and-in breeding is to know how to choose new blood, and how to apply it to correct growing defects in the herd without interfering with the fixity of character, and type of the animals that compose the herd. In "mixed" breeding the most important point is the selection of a sire. The breeder should select uniform and well-bred cows, but should steadily keep in view that in the production of stock, the bull represents one-half the whole herd. The bull should be of high individual merit, but still more important, indeed essential, he should be descendent from a good line of ancestry, whose characteristics correspond to the ideal type the breeder has in view. Neither showyard victories, nor results in another herd should be accepted as evidence of the suitability of a bull as a sire in a particular herd. The style and general character of the bull, as well as those of his ancestors, ought to be similar to the style and general character of the animals among which he is to be used. Unless these are so, no degree of personal merit will insure success. Pedigree is like the index to a book—it tells of what parts the animal is composed, and helps discover whether the ancestry were good, bad, or indifferent, or whether of similar or of different blood. These are the real uses of registration. If the ancestry were bad, the shorter the pedigree the better. In cross-breeding "first crosses" are usually more successful than subsequent crosses. This might be accounted for by the improved features of animals giving place to natural characteristics when the circumstances that induced these improved features have been discontinued. Those handsome forms, true symmetry, fine quality and good points, that characterize improved farm stock have been induced by perseverance in well-defined breeding and general management, artificial features engrafted on the animal by the skill of man. Discontinue these, and the artificial featuers would gradually disappear, the natural characteristics would always be stronger than the artificial. The advantage of the good breeding of a sire is very clear. The more firmly the improved or artificial features are stamped on a sire, the longer would that sire transmit those features to his offsprings; good breeding, and nothing else without it, would stamp improved or artificial features upon an animal.—*Western Homestead.*

PREMIUM AWARDS.

The following is a list of the premiums awarded at the first annual fair of the Wadena County Agricultural Society:

Bullard & Butler, Verndale, stallion 3 years or over,.....1st prem.
P. Brate, Wadena, stallion 3 yrs or over..2d "
J. Valentine, Compton, matched team for general purposes,.....1st "
J B Ruscoe, Stowe Prairie, brood mare...1st "
A F Stowe, " " " " ...2d "
A D Parks, Aldrich, bull of any age.....1st "
H W Fuller, Wadena, bull of any age....2d "
T Ellsworth, Wadena, cow of any age...1st "
C Pike, Compton, cow of any age.....2d "
F Brown, Wadena, best fat ox.....1st "
" " " pair work oxen...1st "
L F Yeaton, Wadena, best pair steers....1st "
H W Fuller, " polan china boar...1st "
" " berkshire sow.....1st "
Mrs W Anderson, Compton, jar butter...1st "
Mrs R H Armstrong, Aldrich, " " ...2d "
Mrs P Brate, Wadena, roll butter.....1st "
Mrs C Borcher, Wadena, roll butter.....2d "
L A Paddock, Wadena, trio turkeys.....1st "
Mrs C J Stuart, " " buff cochins..1st "
W S Hurst, Bluffton, hard wheat flour...1st "
" " soft " " ...1st "
J E Butler, Verndale, bus. spring wheat..1st "
E L Engalls, " " " " ..2d "
C Fisher, Leaf River, " winter " ..1st "
W H Cornell, Stowe P., bus. winter wheat 2d "
L A Paddock, Wadena, " " rye...1st "
J E Butler, Verndale, " oats.....1st "
J Strong, Compton, " " .....2d "
E L Engalls, Verndale, " dent corn.....1st "
J E Butler, " " flint corn.....1st "
Lorenzo Paddock, Wadena, sulky plowing. 1st "
H W Fuller, Wadena, sulky plowing.....2d "
W Young, Wing River, hand plowing.....1st "
J Valentine, Compton, " " .....2d "
J W Wallingford, Oak Valley, hand plowing with ox team.....1st "
H W Fuller, Wadena, peck yellow onions..1st "
" " " 2 field pumpkins....1st "
A Langley, Compton, peck red onions...1st "
P Brate, Wadena, pe'k early rose potatoes. 2d "
" " beat'ty of hebrew " .2d "
T Jordan, " 3 citrons.....1st "
E L Engalls, Verndale, p'k snowflake potatoes.....2d "
E L Engalls, Verndale, doz blood beets..1st "
W Lovejoy, Thomastown, single squash weighing 95 pounds.....1st "
Mrs R H Armstrong, Aldrich, 4 heads of drumhead cabbage.....1st "
Mrs R H Armstrong, Aldrich, p'k tom'toes. 1st "
" " " p'k wh'te onions. 1st "
A Langley, Compton, 1 doz peppers.....1st "
" " 3 watermelons.....1st "
A D Parks, Aldrich, 3 var. early potatoes. 1st "
J Lock, Leaf River, sam. orange carrots. 1st "
A R Wiswell, Leaf River, 4 heads drumhead cabbage.....2d "
A R Wiswell, Leaf R., 4 heads cauliflower. 1st "
W Anderson, Compton, sample swede turnips.....1st "
E M Gordon, Deer Creek, col. 5 var. onions. 1st "
J E Butler, Verndale, 1 doz white carrots. 1st "
" " ruta baga turnips...1st "
" " peck red onions.....2d "
W H Cornell, Stowe Pr'rie, 3 musk mel'ns. 1st "
W C Eddy, Verndale, pk e'rly rose potato's. 1st "
" " peck peerless potatoes. 1st "
Mrs S S Gardner, Wadena, col. house pl'ts. 1st "
" " specimens in bloom.....1st "
Mrs S S Gardner, hanging baskets.....2d "
A Langley, Compton, display of fruit....1st "
Mrs L F Yeaton, Wadena, loaf brown bread.....1st "
Mrs L A Paddock, Wadena, display of pickles.....1st "
Mrs L A Paddock, variety of jellies.....1st "
" tomato preserves.....1st "
" citron " .....1st "
" gooseberry " .....1st "
" raspberry " .....1st "
" blueberry " .....2d "
Mrs C M Maltby, Bluffton, mango's picki's 1st "
Mrs M L Odell, Wadena, tomato catsup. 2d "
" " strawb'y pres've. 1st "
Mrs C J Stuart, " loaf wh't bread..1st "
Mrs C Potter, Wadana, sweet pickles....1st "
Mrs W H Cornell, Stowe Prairie, tomato catsup.....1st "
Mrs M H Gardner, Wadena, jar raspb'ies. 2d "
Mrs C J Stuart, Wadena, blueb'y pres'vs. 1st "
Mrs E L Engalls, Verndale, 2 loaves white bread.....2d "
Mrs J F Williams, Leaf River, patch work quilt.....1st "
Mrs J F Williams, patch work quilt.....2d "
Mrs J Valentine, Compton, p't'h w'k quilt 2d "
Mrs C Potter, Wadena, sp. mach. sewing 1st "
Mrs L F Yeaton, Wadena, hooked rug....1st "
Mrs J Herron, Wadena, 15 y'ds rag carpet. 2d "
Mrs M H Gardner, " " " .1st "
" " home m'de spre'd 1st "
Miss L Lightfoot, Oak Valley, log cabin quilt.....1st "
Mrs F Brown, Wadena, specimen fancy needle work.....1st "
Miss M C Borchers, Compton, hand knit stockings.....1st "
Mrs W H Webb, Oak Valley, specimen hand sewing.....1st "
Mrs C Northfoss, Wadena, specimen fancy needle work.....2d "
Mrs T Barwise, Compton, fancy quilt...1st "
Mrs W H Bement, wadena, log cab. quilt 2d "
" " " home made spread.....2d "
Miss M wilson, Compton, chrochet tidy..1st "
Mrs C Potter, wadena, toilet cushion.....1st "
H williams, Perham, 5 oil paintings.....1st "
" " crayon drawing.....1st "
Mrs F Coon, wadena, fancy tidies.....1st "
Mrs w R Baumbach, wadena, crayon drawing.....1st "
Mrs R H Armstrong, Aldrich, fancy hanging basket.....1st "
Miss M C Borchers, Compton, canvass tidy.....1st "
Mrs w H webb, Oak Valley, knit tidy....2d "
Mrs J K Miller, wadena, 3 oil paintings..2d "
Mrs M H Gardner, wadena, lamp mats..2d "
Miss E Katzky, wadena, fancy tidies.....2d "

FIRST PREMIUMS WERE AWARDED TO THE FOLLOWING, UNDER THE HEAD OF "MISCELLANEOUS."

Carl Fisher, Leaf River, bushel flax seed. John Valentine, Compton, heifer calf, 4 months old. Carl Pike, Compton, yearling calf. Gaetz & Brockhof, wadena, farm wagon. Miss May Wilson, Compton, sofa blanket and gents' slippers. Mrs. N L Jones, wadena, display of millinery goods. T Jordan, wadena, four pine melons. P Brate, wadena, four pigs and yearling heifer. E L Engalls, Verndale, best horse shoeing tools, samples and varieties of horse shoes, and samples blacksmithing. Mrs E L Engalls, Verndale, husk door mat, feather wreath, and varieties of skell work. L F Yeaton, wadena, 3 year old colt, and 2 year old colt. Mrs Sarah Gardner, wadena, scheneille rug. A G Peake, set rolling colters, and wheel attachment. Mrs J Kephart, wadena, neck scarf. Byron waite, wadena, 2 year old stallion. C G Strasburg, wadena, patent iron horse collar. J Kephart, wadena, road sulky. J Hawkins, Oak Valley, half bushel early rose potatoes, half bushel corn, and harvester. Mrs w A Bryant, Aldrich, splint wall pocket. A D Parks, Aldrich, largest and best display of native timber sprouts, 100 days growth. Mrs C M Maltby, Bluffton, autumn wreath. Miss M C Borcher, Compton, crochet shawl, and smokers companion. C Boettcher, wadena, pig 3 mos. old. Mrs w H webb, Oak Valley, one jar soy. J B Ruscoe, Stowe Prairie, colt 3 months old. E Castle, Verndale, 2 year old stallion. J Hawkins, Oak Valley, mowing machine. w H Cornell, Stowe Prairie, sample Hungarian grass. Mrs S Gardner, wadena, canned tomatoes, and canned citron. M S Morical, Leaf River, 2 year old heifer. Henry Bottermiller, Bertha, specimen flat turnips, early amber improved sugar cane, and sheaf oats. L Errickson, wadena, sample boots and shoes. Mrs M H Gardner, wadena, wollen sheet, home made. M S Morical, Leaf River, 2 year old bull. Emma Katzky, wadena, 3 cases art flowers. Mrs M H Gardner, wadena, wax card basket. H w Fuller, wadena, yearling heifer. T Barwise, Compton, 2 year old colt. A F Stowe, Stowe Prairie, pair of spring colts. Bullard & Butler, Verndale, largest and best display of cerials and straw.

First premium was awarded to Mr and Mrs J Q Ostrander's baby, as being the handsomest under six months of age. Second premium to Mrs Carl Northfoss' baby.

It is desired that those who have not yet applied for their premiums, do so at once.

Domestic Department.

Written for the Farmer.

The Kitchen Garden

CABBAGE CAULIFLOWER.

Every one likes cabbage, but, oh dear, the trouble of raising them some one says. A good deal of care is required I admit, but the reward is great. Procure a shallow box about two feet wide and three feet long; fill this half full of well rotted manure; fill up with mellow soil and put down cellar before freezing time comes. I put stout leather handles on mine so it is easily moved. About the middle of March I bring it up and spread an old cotton cloth over it and sprinkle my seeds on it.

EARLY CABBAGE.—Early York or Early Sugar Leaf, are the best American savory and cauliflower. Keep each kind separate of course. Spread another cloth over, put about an inch of dirt upon this. Set the box by the stove and keep very wet. Do not let the box become chilled in the least. In three days carefully lift the upper cloth, dirt and all. Lo the seeds are all sprouted! Lift them carefully from the box on the cloth. Stir the dirt in the box thoroughly, then smooth it and check in half inch squares. At each cross make a hole about an inch deep, pick up a seed by the top, hold the long delicate sprout in the hole and fill in the dirt until it is firm. When all the holes are filled, sprinkle enough dirt over to cover the seed which will be on top. Keep warm for three days, but do not water and your box will be filled with little green beauties. Now give them plenty of sunshine, no cold nights, water with luke warm water every other day—a little ammonia in the water is a great help. As soon as the plants have two good leaves, begin to stir the soil with a little stick; keep it loose. When they are three weeks old the cabbage flea will come. Sprinkle them well with wood ashes every morning until they go out in the garden, which should be about the first of May. As this is a great deal of trouble, fifty plants of each kind will be all you will wish to care for.

About the middle of April, spread a good coat of ashes on a piece of ground three feet square; rake well; make drills about three inches apart and drop your late cabbage seed about two inches apart; cover half an inch and pat smoothly. Water sparingly every other day until the plants are well up, then water every night and sprinkle with ashes every morning. May first, your early plants will be quite ready to go out. Dig a hole spade deep, fill half up with well rotted manure, one-fourth more with dirt, set your plant, heap up and give it half a pint of water and a thorough shade. The early cabbage and cauliflower can be set fifteen inches apart, but savory must be two feet.

LATE CABBAGE.—Late cabbage should be set two and one half to three feet apart. Hoe all cabbage once a week drawing the dirt well up around the plant. If there is the least sign of bugs, sprinkle well with ashes. Early morning is the best time to hoe them. Do not water your cabbages after they begin to grow in the garden. When they begin to head hill up to the leaves, put a large handful of salt around each plant and let them alone. You may expect early cabbage by the first or middle of July.

BOILED CABBAGE.—Take a moderate sized cabbage and cut into quarters; do not remove the heart, that is the best part. Boil four hours in clear water and a little salt. Place in a deep dish and pour over it, one cup vinegar, piece of butter size of hens egg, pinch of salt and some pepper boiling hot. It may be boiled with a piece of lean pork, corn beef, or fresh beef and other vegetables.

HOT SLAW.—Chop fine, boil until done in clear water; uncover and boil dry; add one cup vinegar, one half cup butter, salt, pepper and pinch of mustard seed. Boil five minutes and serve hot.

COLD SLAW.—Chop fine, add one hard boiled egg to each pint of chopped cabbage chopped together; pour on one cup of boiling vinegar, salt and pepper to taste, and set away to get cold.

CREAM SLAW.—Chop fine, boil tender, add salt, pepper and three tablespoonsful of vinegar; boil; when ready to put on the table, pour in one teacup sweet cream; stir thoroughly and serve at once.

CABBAGE *a la* CAULIFLOWER.—Quarter small cabbage; boil three hours, drain, add one cup sweet milk, one-fourth cup butter, salt, pepper, let steam over fire three minutes; serve.

PICKLED STALKS AND HEART.—Strip the green part from the large leaves and cut off the point of stem; add hearts saved from slaw, cut into medium sized pieces; boil in clear water and a little salt two hours; put into boiling vinegar; eat cold. It will not keep over a week.

PICKLED BLOOD CABBAGE.—Boil whole five to six hours in water and one cup salt to gallon of water; cover with vinegar and set away one week.

Pull cabbage the last of September, hang up by roots out of door for a week, then place heads down on a shelf in cool cellar. They may be stored in pit, but must be used while frozen, if they freeze, or they will rot.

GARDINIER.

Neighborhood News.

WRIGHTSTOWN.

The long spell of dry weather has detained many of the farmers from ploughing.

Winter wheat is looking splendid, and is making a good growth.

Devillo Barber returned last week from Clay county, where he has been at work for the past two months, and reports that wheat is good in that section of the country, averaging about 18 to 20 bushels per acre.

Our district school, for the winter term of four months begins to-day, with Miss Delia A. Heywood, of Wadena, as teacher. Miss Heywood taught our summer term, and gave universal satisfaction, and is voted by all the district to be a No. 1 teacher.

Perkins & Abbott have finished squeezing sweet from frost bitten cane.

Wm. Harcom has gone to Dodge Co., on business relating to his father's estate.

Messrs. Runion & Hewett have arrived with their "celebrated eclipse," to finish up the threshing in this vicinity; expect to be able to report a good yield of wheat next week.

Adelbert Wright started last evening to go home from his fathers, and had proceeded but a short distance, when he saw a large animal of some kind cross the road in front of him, but thinking nothing strange supposing it to be a bear went on, and it soon crossed the road again and circled around him and crossed the thi. time, when Dell began to think h was getting rather to intimate concluded he would not go any farther in company with him, so he retraced his steps back to his father's, and waited till daylight to go home. Rather think he made some tall tracks in his retreat. INVISIBLE.

WING RIVER.

Matters have again assumed their usual quietude since the elopement of Geo. W. Shook.

Mr. Jas. Carman and his brother-in-law, Albert Cheny, have rented part of Mr. Lambert's farm, and are now plowing it.

The McGlaughlin Bros. sold their splendid team of horses, harness and whippletrees to Mr. Ellsworth, for the exceedingly small price of $200.

Our usually quiet community was thrown into a panic of excitement on Wednesday, Sept. 22d, which spread like wild-fire to Wadena and Verndale on the announcement of the elopement of Mr. Geo. W. Shook out of the country, with about $500 in cash, and leaving behind him about $2500 of unpaid debts partly secured. The worst blow falls upon the McGlaughlin Bros., who are loosers to the amount of nearly $400 without the least particle of security whereby to get anything in return. His hired help were also cheated out of the most of their wages. Shook had the entire confidence of the people with which he dealt with, for not even the most cautious of them had the least suspicion of him playing any such nefarious tricks upon them. It is rumored that he had advisors to the trick, but he has taken a name with him that will forever blast his future life. What is all this world to an untainted character? When the news of the manner in which Shook has acted reaches his father it will be a hard blow on him, for he is a straight business man and very much respected.

We have a very enthusiastic lot of educational people in our district. The clerk called two meetings and not enough turned out at either to do business, so I guess we wont have any school.

Potato digging and the securing of the root crops appears to attract the attention of most of our farmers just now, on account of the cold spell.

Neighbor Goings threshed to-day, the wheat being of good quality but yielded poorly. Oats turned out big.

CORRESPONDENT.

BLUFFTON.

(Received too late for last week's issue.)

We were agreeably surprised on our visit to the fair last week, at the large and complete exhibit, and at the manner in which the arrangements were made and carried out. It seemed as though it was an old institution instead of the first attempt of the sort, and to those who are conversant with such affairs, indicated an amount of labor performed by some one or more, that is highly to their credit. Of course some were dissatisfied with the judges' verdicts, and in one instance with a show of reason, viz., where the first premium for best brood mare was given to a young mare that never had a colt. But such slips will occur in the best regulated families, and on the whole, the fair must be voted an unqualified success; and the next will be better still. One man was heard to say: "I wish I had brought my steers, they are better than anything here." Another, "I could have taken the prize for best colt." And one of the gentler sex did wish she had brought a loaf of bread from her last baking, she was sure it would have taken the premium. In this way, the fair has aroused a spirit of emulation, and has done good, and next year we will see a marked improvement, in both the number and the quality of the exhibits.

The *Fergus Falls Journal* in last week's issue, tells of the largest yield of wheat so far reported in the country, being 31 bushels to the acre, raised in the town of Aurdall. The *Journal* man should come up this way to find big yields. I. C. Traver, of Leaf Lake town had thirty-seven and a half bushels per acre, and David Traver thirty-four and a half. This wheat is the best sample shown here this year, and was raised on land that was sown to buckwheat last year, which fact may account for the good crop, buckwheat being a splendid thing to subdue wild land.

There is a monster turnip on exhibition in C. D. Baker's store, it measures within one half inch of three feet around it, and grew on the farm of Mr. W. Naise, within two miles of here. FACT.